

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

This reply is in response to the Office Action dated May 18, 2006. Claims 1-53 are pending in the application and stand rejected. Applicant has amended the claims to more clearly recite aspects of the invention. Entry of the foregoing amendment and reconsideration of the claims is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-53 stand provisionally rejected on the ground of non-statutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-208 of Domine (U.S. Publication No. 2004/0241474A1; hereafter "Domine"). Considering the obviousness-type double patenting rejection is provisional, Applicant will defer an appropriate response until any claims are deemed to be allowed.

Claims 1-53 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Vogel *et al.* (PCT Publication No. WO 01/78981; hereafter "Vogel"). Applicant has amended base claims 1, 7, 18, 28, 39, 50, 51, 52, and 53, obviating the rejection. Vogel does not teach, show, or suggest a backing or substrate in combination with a laminate and/or tie layer, where the backing or substrate comprises acrylonitrile-ethylene-styrene; acrylonitrile-styrene-acrylate; an amorphous polyamide; butyl rubber; halogenated butyl rubber; a copolymer of isobutylene and an alkylstyrene; polyisobutylene; a chlorosulfonated polyethylene rubber; a copolyester; a cyclic olefin copolymer; a dynamically vulcanized alloy; a liquid crystal polymer; natural rubber; a general purpose rubber; nitrile rubber; polyacrylonitrile; a polyamide compound that is impact modified with an acid and/or an anhydride containing polymer or rubber; a polyamide elastomer; a polyarylate; a polyaryletherketone; polybenzimidazole; polybutylene terephthalate; polybutylene naphthalate; a polyester elastomer; polyethylene naphthalate; polyetherketone; polyethersulfone; polyimidesulfone; polymethacrylate-acrylonitrile-butadiene-styrene; polyphenylsulfone; polymethylmethacrylate; a high impact polystyrene; syndiotactic polystyrene; polystyrene maleic anhydride; polyethylene-vinyl alcohol; a crosslinked, glass-reinforced, polyester/polystyrene composition; a bulk molding compound; a crosslinked polyurethane; a reinforced polyurethane; crosslinked dicyclopentadiene; a silicone rubber; a styrene block copolymer; a compression-molded article of woven, glass-fiber-reinforced polypropylene fibers; or mixtures thereof, as recited in the claims. For at least this reason, withdrawal of the rejection and allowance of the claims is respectfully requested.

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• Attorney Docket No.: 2003B049/2
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CONCLUSION

Having addressed all issues set out in the office action, Applicant respectfully submits that the pending claims are now in condition for allowance. Applicant invites the Examiner to telephone the undersigned attorney if there are any issues outstanding which have not been addressed to the Examiner's satisfaction.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date

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